

DOCKET NO: 217478US-6 DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Taro SUITO, et al.

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW DIV. APPLICATION

FILED: HERewith

FOR: INFORMATION PROCESSING
APPARATUS, INFORMATION
PROCESSING METHOD, AND
DISTRIBUTION MEDIA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The specification is amended as follows:

Page 1, line 6, please insert the following paragraph:

--The present document claims the benefit of the earlier filing date of co-pending U.S.

Patent application serial number 09/447,496, entitled "INFORMATION PROCESSING

APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, AND DISTRIBUTION

MEDIA" filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 23, 1999 and claims

priority to Japanese Application No. 10-339272, filed on November 30, 1998, the entire

contents of both of these documents being incorporated herein by reference.--

4002249-12001
T002T-6T02001

Page 1, lines 6-14:

This application is related to U.S. Patent Application Numbers 09/448,836 and 09/448,837, both of which are filed on the same date as this application. These applications correspond with Attorney Docket Nos. SONY-Q9137 and SONY-Q9138. Both applications are titled INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, AND DISTRIBUTION MEDIA, both have same co-inventors as in the present application and both are assigned to the assignee of the present invention. Both of said applications are incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice or disclaimer Claims 1-10, 21-30, 41-50, and 61-70.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

The present application is a divisional of co-pending parent U.S. Application Serial No. 09/447,496.

Claims 11-20, 31-40, 51-60, and 71-80 are pending, Claims 1-10, 21-30, 41-50, and 61-70 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by way of the present Preliminary Amendment.

Accordingly, examination on the merits is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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217478US-6 DIV

Marked-Up Copy

Serial No: New Div. Appl.

Amendment Filed on:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 6, please insert the following paragraph:

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Patent application serial number 09/447,496, entitled "INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, AND DISTRIBUTION MEDIA" filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 23, 1999 and claims priority to Japanese Application No. 10-339272, filed on November 30, 1998, the entire contents of both of these documents being incorporated herein by reference.--

Page 1, lines 6-14:

This application is related to U.S. Patent Application Numbers [_____ and _____]
] 09/448,836 and 09/448,837, both of which are filed on the same date as this application.
These applications correspond with Attorney Docket Nos. SONY-Q9137 and SONY-Q9138.
Both applications are titled INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS,
INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, AND DISTRIBUTION MEDIA, both have
[same inventors as this application] same co-inventors as in the present application and both
are assigned to the assignee of the present invention. Both of said applications are
incorporated herein by reference.